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Political Pipeline

CAPITOL HILL — Will the big stockpiling probe sparked by JFK (NEWSWEEK, Feb. 12) produce the anti-GOP campaign fodder the President expected? Here is what Budget Director David Bell told Congress: "I think the investigation will probably show that the bulk of this material was acquired in good faith and for sensible reasons but that the requirements have changed and therefore a lot of it is not now required."

CHICAGO — Politicians here expect Illinois to be another stop for JFK's campaign plane next fall, when he'll go into the field for local Democrats. Rep. Sidney Yates is counting heavily on the President's help to upset the formidable Senate Minority Leader, Everett McKinley Dirksen.

SENATE CLOAKROOM — Here is the story on how JFK lost one "sure" Senate vote for his urban-affairs bill. Sen. Dennis Chavez of New Mexico was furious because the White House turned down his brother David's New Mexico State judge, for the Federal bench. At 66, he was considered too old. Chavez was mad enough to get out of sickbed to cast his [illegible] vote.

Capital Notes

TREASURY DEPARTMENT — It won't broadcast but errant taxpayers poured $[illegible],000 into the Treasury after Internal Revenue boss Mortimer Caplin made just one speech urging delinquents to pay up. (One came through with income taxes going back to 1918.) Caplin promises no immunity but, as a rule, IRS doesn't press charges in such cases.

HOUSE CLOAKROOM — Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman's virtuoso performance explaining his farm program to the House is still impressing congressmen. Republicans who studied the transcript, for instance, discovered that in 24 solid pages of the testimony, Freeman managed to avoid mentioning its cost (sample: $3 billion in farm assistance for 1962) even once.

EXECUTIVE WING — Richard Bissell, former No. 3 man in Central Intelligence and mastermind of the ill-fated Cuba invasion, has a special White House assignment. A professional economist (and one of the architects of the Marshall plan), Bissell will study how funds should be spent for the multibillion-dollar Alliance for Progress aid program. After that, he'll move to the Pentagon's Institute for Defense Analysis.

WHITE HOUSE — Here are the first two recommendations Bobby Kennedy had ready for JFK when he walked in from his round-the-world trip: (1) More trips by big-name Americans to sell the U.S. position, and (2) get U.S. ambassadors to spend more time out of the embassies doing the same thing.

Military Log

PENTAGON — Here's the latest silly censorship story. Although British photos of these five Russian cargo ships steaming to deliver torpedo boats to Cuba appeared in the European and U.S. press weeks ago, the State Department has censored U.S. Navy pictures of the same ships in Caribbean waters.

HEIDELBERG — Defense planners are burning the midnight oil over this dilemma: How to chop $1 billion off our annual $3 billion military outlay abroad (a major cause of the U.S. dollar drain) without cutting back on the 400,000 troops committed to NATO. Two possible outs: (1) Slash the number of military families overseas (JFK reversed Ike's order to do just that), or (2) pressure NATO countries (especially West Germany) to boost military spending in the U.S. or pick up more of the American tab in Europe.

PENTAGON — Behind Defense Secretary McNamara's decision to go slow on building Minuteman missiles: Russia's victorious anti-ICBM program. The U.S. may be forced to shift from relatively small-warhead missiles like the Minuteman (under a megaton, compared with five — MT's for the Atlas) to overcome Soviet technological advances. The bigger Atlas could carry decoys, multiple warheads, terminal guidance, and other devices to outwit Soviet defenses.

Around the World

KARTOUM, SUDAN — Health Secretary Abe Ribicoff's unannounced candidacy for the U.S. Senate faces some unexpected headwinds. Democratic Gov. Frank Lausche, for the party's [illegible] (2) [illegible] worried with his campaign for a [illegible]

SAIGON — One case of loaded dice in the "non-[illegible]" [illegible] Viet Cong have been shooting down U.S. planes

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